

IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0008] The present invention is summarized in that acceptable gel gassing levels are maintained when the gel of an alkaline electrochemical cell contains a surfactant having the general formula $Y SO_x^-$ where preferably $x = 3$ or $x = 4$ and Y preferably is selected from an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, and a carboxy sulfonic acid group $[(CH_2)_n-COO^-]$, or a salt of any of the foregoing, where the number of carbon atoms, n, in an alkyl chain preferably ranges from 1 to about 26. To the knowledge of the inventors, sulfonated or sulfated acid type surfactants have not previously been employed in gelled anodes, but are shown herein to effectively help inhibit discharge leakage and to maintain cell integrity.